

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 21, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire July 21, 2004. In the present Amendment, Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 are amended, and Claims 5, 9, 14, 19 and 21 are cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-13, 15-18, 20 and 22-24 are now pending.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 22-24 have been allowed.

In Paragraph 7 of the present Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 3-5, 8-9, 13-15 and 18-20 would be allowed if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the indication of allowable claims, base Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent Claim 5, base Claim 6 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent Claim 9, base Claim 11 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent Claim 14, and base Claim 16 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent Claim 19, each dependent claim depending directly on its respective base claim.

CONCLUSION

Having complied with the recommendations of the Examiner, all pending claims should now be allowed. Applicants therefore respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

No extension of time for this response is believed to be necessary. However, in the event an extension of time is required, that extension of time is hereby requested. Please charge any fee associated with an extension of time as well as any other fee necessary to further the prosecution of this application to **IBM CORPORATION Deposit Account No. 50-0563**.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Boice
Registration No. 44,545
DILLON & YUDELL, L.L.P.
8911 N. Cap. of Texas Hwy., Suite 2110
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 343-6116
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS